



SCOOBY

APOCALYPSE

16



GIFFEN
DeMATTEIS
WAGNER
OWENS
PORTER
HI-FI

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THE DARK KNIGHTS RISE!



**DARK KNIGHTS
RISE!**





16

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COME!

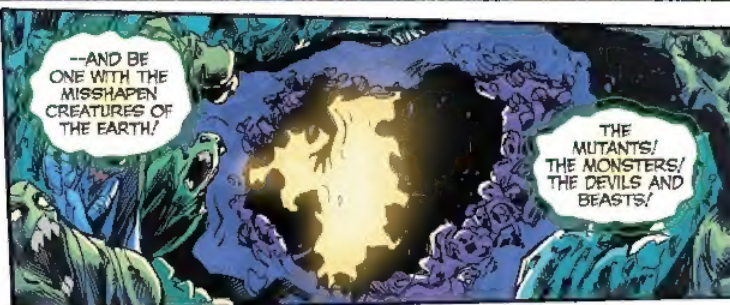
FROM
FAR AND NEAR!
FROM EARTH
AND SKY!

ON LEGS
AND TENTACLES
AND BEATING
WINGS!



FOLLOW
MY THOUGHTS!
FOLLOW MY
TRIUMPHANT
CRY!

SURRENDER
ALL INDIVIDUALITY!
SURRENDER ALL PAIN
AND LACK AND
LIMITATION--



--AND BE
ONE WITH THE
MISSHAPEN
CREATURES OF
THE EARTH!

THE
MUTANTS!
THE MONSTERS!
THE DEVILS AND
BEASTS!




BE
ONE WITH
THEM!

AND BE
ONE--



--WITH
ME!

THAT SOUND.
THAT...SIGNAL!
THE CLOSER
I GET...



...THE LOUDER IT IS, LIKE A WHINE THAT COULD SPLIT MY EARDRUMS, SPLIT MY WHOLE HEAD RIGHT IN TWO, AND, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE...

...I SWEAR I CAN HEAR A VOICE AT THE HEART OF THAT NOISE, CALLING TO ALL THOSE BEASTIES DOWN THERE, BUT WHOSE VOICE IS IT? AND WHAT DOES HE WANT?

SCOOBY APOCALYPSE THE SACRIFICE!

I FOLLOWED THAT HORDE TO THIS FARM 'CAUSE I WAS LOOKING FOR REVENGE. THOSE DAMN MONSTERS KILLED OFF MY PACK, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING CRAZY GOING ON HERE, AND FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS...

...IT'S ABOUT TO GET A HELLVA LOT CRAZIER.

AND NO ONE KNOWS CRAZY BETTER THAN THOSE LOVABLE LUNATICS!

KEITH BIFFEN & J.M. DeMATTEIS: writers
RON WAGNER and ANDY DWENS: artists

HI-PI: colors TRAVIS LANHAM; Letters CARLOS D'ANDA; cover
EMANUELA LUPACCHINO, MARK MORALES and TOMER MOREY: variant cover
BRITTANY HOLZHEIM: assoc. editor MARIE JAVINS: compositions
Based on a concept by JIM LEE



THEY'RE ALL COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE SOME KIND OF GIANT, A MONSTER MADE OF MONSTERS. A LITTLE HEALTHY REVENGE IS ONE THING...

...BUT TAKING ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT? THAT'S ABOVE MY PAY GRADE!

HELL, NOT ALL THAT LONG AGO, I WAS JUST A DUMB LITTLE PUPPY NAMED SCRAPPY-DOO.



THEN THE COMPLEX GOT THEIR MITTS ON ME. MADE ME A TEST SUBJECT IN THEIR SMART-DOG EXPERIMENTS. ME...

...AND A WHOLE LOT OF OTHER INNOCENT CANINES THAT DIDN'T ASK T'HAVE IMPLANTS SHOVED INSIDE THEM. HAVE THEIR MINDS EXPANDED AND THEIR BODIES AUGMENTED.

WHY? SO THEY COULD SELL US OFF TO THE MILITARY FOR A BIG, FAT PRICE.



BUT THERE *IS* NO MILITARY ANYMORE. THERE'S NO *ANYTHING*! THAT DAMN PLAGUE HAS TURNED THE WORLD INTO A NIGHTMARE.

AND I GUESS I'M A NIGHTMARE, TOO. THE EXPERIMENTS, THE BATTLE TRAINING...IT ALL TURNED ME UGLY, TURNED ME MEAN. AND NOW I--

WHAT'S THAT?



PEOPLE COMING UP THE ROAD, WHICH CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING.

NOW EVERYONE BE QUIET! WE DON'T WANT 'EM T'KNOW WE'RE HERE!

YEP.



IT'S DOC DINKLEY AND HER CREW OF IDIOTS. WHAT THE HELL ARE *THEY* DOING HERE?

UH... SHAGGY? YOU DO REALIZE YOU'RE YELLING, RIGHT?

OH, RIGHT.

C'MON, WE'VE GOT TO GET CLOSER.

DO WE HAVE TO?



YES, WE HAVE TO!

SOMETHING IS CONTROLLING THOSE MONSTERS. WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHO AND HOW.

BECAUSE IF WE CAN LEARN TO CONTROL THEM, THEN MAYBE THERE'S A CHANCE TO--



TO WHAT EXACTLY? TURN THEM INTO EASILY MANIPULATED SHEEP? ISN'T THAT WHAT THE COMPLEX WANTED TO DO TO HUMANITY?

IT WAS-- AND WE'VE BEEN LIVING WITH THE TRAGIC RESULT EVER SINCE.

BUT MY GOAL, DAPHNE, IS TO FIND A CURE. REVERSE THIS PLAGUE, BUT I CAN'T DO THAT--



--WHILE WE'RE BEING CONSTANTLY HUNTED AND HOUNDED BY THESE BEASTS.

IF WE CAN PACIFY THEM... PERHAPS EVEN COEXIST WITH THEM... THEN I'LL BE FREE TO FOCUS ON RESEARCH. RESTORE AT LEAST SOME OF THE WORLD--

--THAT I'VE HELPED DESTROY.



YOU DIDN'T DESTROY ANYTHING, YENMA. YOUR BROTHERS DID.

THEY MAY HAVE PULLED THE TRIGGER--BUT I BUILT THE GUN.

YOU'VE GOT TO STOP BLAMING YOURSELF.

ACTUALLY--I SHOULD NEVER STOP BLAMING MYSELF. IT'S WHAT GETS ME UP IN THE MORNING. KEEPS ME GOING.



I PREFER COFFEE.

NOW COME ON--WE NEED TO GET A BETTER VIEW!

SEE WHAT'S GOING ON UP AHEAD AND--



I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S GOING ON!

RUN-
ROW!



THEY'RE JOINING TOGETHER! FORMING A MEGAMONSTER!

AND I DON'T PLAN ON BEING HERE WHEN THEY'RE DONE! I'M DOUBLING BACK, GRABBING MY PET BOY CLIFFY-- AND HITTING THE ROAD!

THEN GO!

UH-UH! NOT WITHOUT THE DOC!

OVER MY DEAD BODY!

THAT CAN BE ARRANGED, RED!



REALLY? THERE'S A GIANT WHO'S WHAT'SIT FORMIN' UP THERE AND YOU WANNA START A FIGHT WITH US?

YOU EVER THINK THAT MAYBE WE SHOULD, LIKE, BE WORKIN' TOGETHER?

FIRST OF ALL-- THOSE THINGS CAN'T HEAR US, REMEMBER? THEY'RE TOTALLY OBLIVIOUS--



--SO YOU CAN ALL STOP WHISPERING LIKE YOU'RE AT SOME TEN-YEAR-OLD'S PAJAMA PARTY.

AND SECOND OF ALL?

MY IMPLANTS ARE FAILING. AND I NEED YOU T' FIX 'EM.

COUPLE OF WEEKS... MAYBE A COUPLE OF DAYS... AND MY MIND'S GONNA START CLOUDING UP. MY BODY'S GONNA REVERT TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE I WAS IN THE PROGRAM.

I CAN FEEL IT HAPPENING ALREADY. SOMETIMES... SOMETIMES IT GETS HARD T'THINK. AND EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I KINDA... PHASE OUT.



NEXT THING I KNOW I'M RUNNING IN CIRCLES, CHASIN' MY TAIL.

I'M TRULY SORRY, SCRAPPY. I WAS AGAINST THE SMART-DOG EXPERIMENTS FROM THE START.

DIDN'T STOP YOU FROM DEVELOPING THE TECH THAT MADE IT HAPPEN. WHICH IS WHY YOU OWE ME, DOC.

FUNNY. TIME WAS I WOULD'VE BEEN HAPPY T'GO BACK TO THE DOG I WAS BEFORE. BUT IN THIS NEW WORLD YOU'VE CREATED--



--YOU'VE GOTTA BE A KILLER TO SURVIVE. AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU MADE ME.

I'D HELP YOU IN A HEARTBEAT... I WOULD! BUT I NEED A LABORATORY! EQUIPMENT!

I CAN'T JUST WAIVE MY HANDS AND--



RRRUNCH

JEEPERS!

ZOOKS!

JINKIES!



THAT SUCKER IS
HUMONGOID!

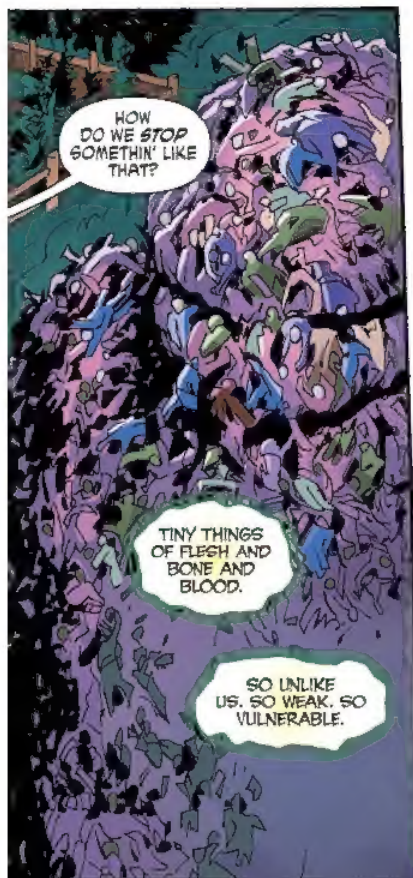
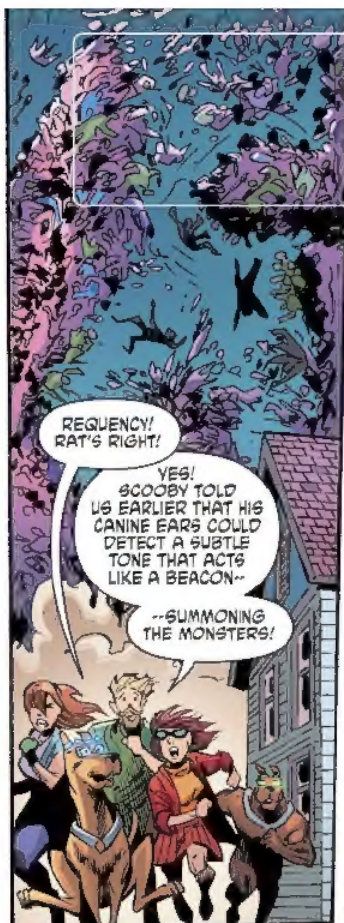
I DON'T BELIEVE
"HUMONGOID" IS AN
ACTUAL WORD--BUT,
IN THIS CASE, I'LL
ACCEPT IT.

WHAT
DO WE DO
NOW?

RUN?

GOOD
THINKIN',
BUDDY!

NO!
WE CAN'T
RUN!







RAT RAPPENED?

"RAT RAPPENED"? WHAT A MORON!

HEY! BE NICE!

I'LL BE NICE TO SCORBERT WHEN HE'S DEAD, AND THAT'LL BE SOON, I HOPE!

CAN WE FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM AT HAND, PLEASE? WHY DID THAT THING FALL?



STRESS TOLERANCE!

FINE! DON'T TELL US!

SIGH IT HAS NO SKELETAL STRUCTURE--SO IT COLLAPSED UNDER ITS OWN WEIGHT!



GREAT! THAT'LL GIVE US A HEAD START!

NOT IF J SENDS THE HORDE AFTER US!

THEY'RE ALL FROZEN IN PLACE--AS IF THE MIND CONTROLLING IT IS CONFUSED!

NOT CONFUSED



THINKING

THE TINY FLESH-THING IS CORRECT. IF WE ARE TO WALK THIS WORLD, ADJUSTMENTS TO THE UN-BODY MUST BE MADE.

THIS...YE, MA HAS A CLEVER MIND A VIBRANT CONSCIOUSNESS





BUT IF IT UNDERSTANDS US--PERHAPS I CAN APPROACH IT. COMMUNICATE WITH IT.

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?

IF IT CAN UNDERSTAND US--HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE BEFORE IT STARTS ROOTING AROUND IN OUR MINDS?

HOW LONG TIL IT TRIES TO ABSORB US? MAKE US JUST ANOTHER CELL IN THAT GARGANTUAN BODY?

AND HOW LONG TIL IT DOESN'T JUST DO IT HERE BUT ALL ACROSS THE PLANET? ABSORBING EVERY MUTATED HUMAN ON EARTH?

WE THINK WE'RE LIVING IN THE APOCALYPSE NOW-- BUT IF THAT THING GETS ITS WAY, ALL OUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE WILL BE LOST!

B-BUT F THAT'S THE CASE--



--HOW IN THE WORLD DO WE STOP IT?

RED'S RIGHT AS MUCH OF A HELL AS THIS WORLD IS NOW. WE LET THAT THING LOOSE AND THE GAME'S OVER. FOR US.

AND FOR LITTLE CLIFFY

I WAS NEVER REALLY SURE WHY I LET THAT KID TAG ALONG WITH ME. BUT I THINK MAYBE IT WAS 'CAUSE HE REMINDED ME OF MYSELF..

..WHEN I WAS A PUP. INNOCENT TRUSTING.

AND DESERVING OF A FUTURE.

I SUSPECT THE CONTROLLING ENTITY IS EMBEDDED IN THE CREATURE'S HEAD.

"SUSPECT"?

EVEN IF YOU'RE RIGHT--

THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!

NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT! BUT ME?



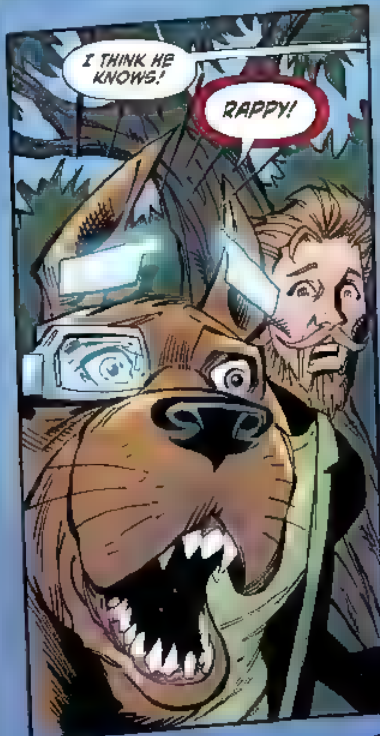
I CAN DO A LOT!

SCRAPPY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

DOC-- WHEN YOU SEE CLIFFY, TELL HIM THAT--

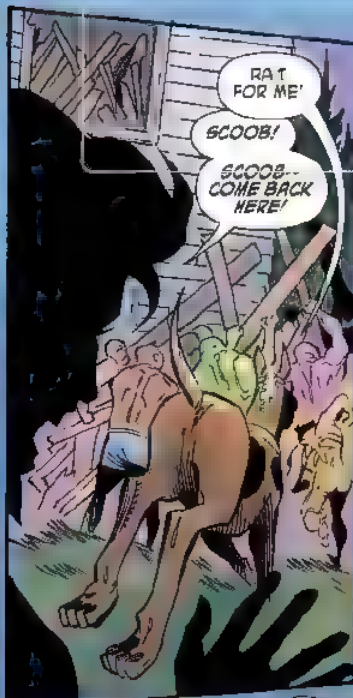
AH... FORGET IT!





I THINK HE KNOWS!

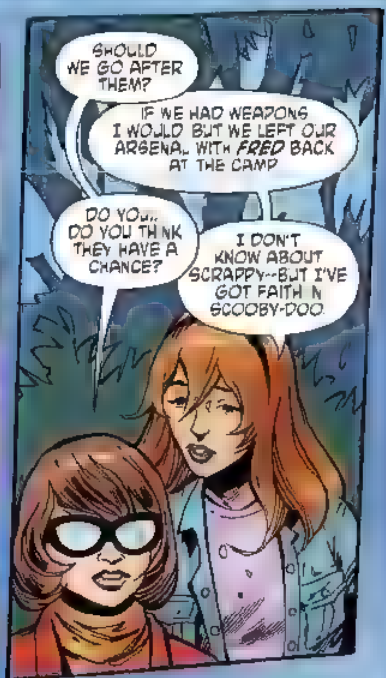
RAPPY!



RAT FOR ME!

SCOOB!

SCOOB--
COME BACK
HERE!



SHOULD
WE GO AFTER
THEM?

IF WE HAD WEAPONS
I WOULD BUT WE LEFT OUR
ARSENAL WITH FRED BACK
AT THE CAMP

DO YOU...
DO YOU THINK
THEY HAVE A
CHANCE?

I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
SCRAPPY--BUT I'VE
GOT FAITH IN
SCOOBY-DOO



"HE NEVER
LETS US DOWN"

WOOF!
WOOF!

HOLY CRAP--DID I JUST
SAY "WOOF WOOF"?

IMPLANTS MUST BE SHORTING
OUT FASTER THAN I REALIZED
NEXT THING YOU KNOW I'LL BE
PEEING ON A FIRE HYDRANT.



GOTTA FOOLS.
KEEP SHARP I CAN
FEEL THAT BEASTIE
PUSHING AT MY MIND

IT KNOWS WHAT
I'M PLANNING.

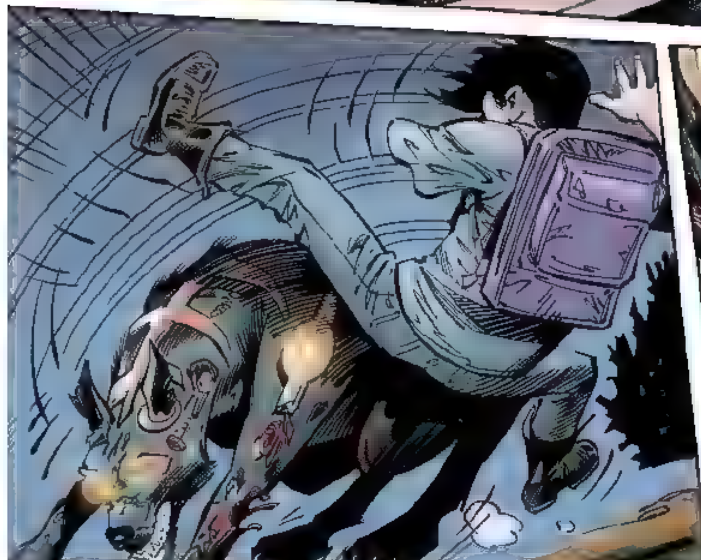
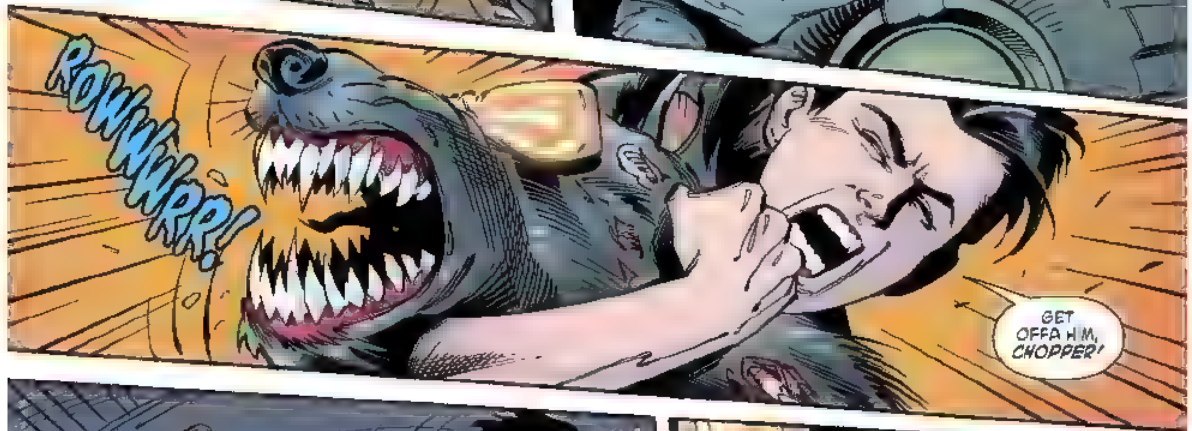
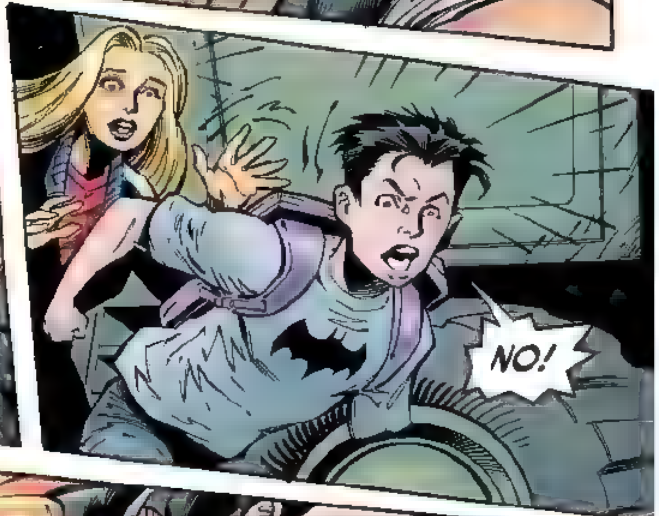
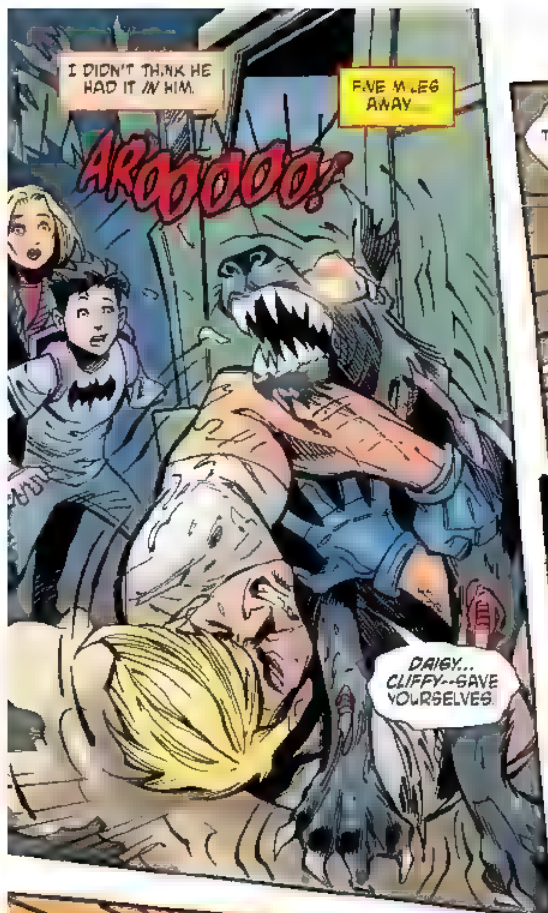
INDEED I DO.
DOG-THING

AND ONCE
I ADJUST TO THE
FREQUENCIES OF
YOUR RATHER UNUSUAL
CONSCIOUSNESS,
I WILL ABSORB
YOU--



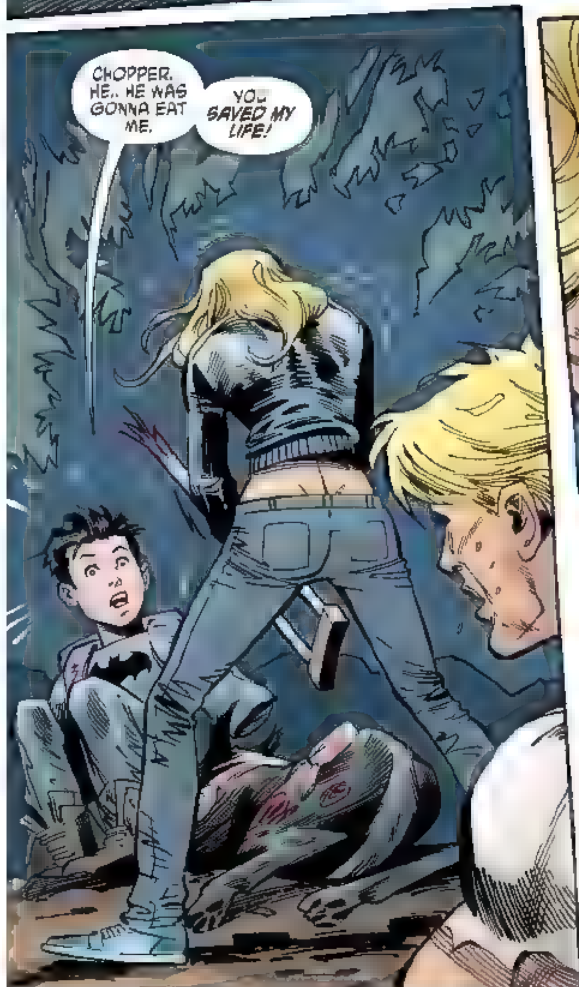
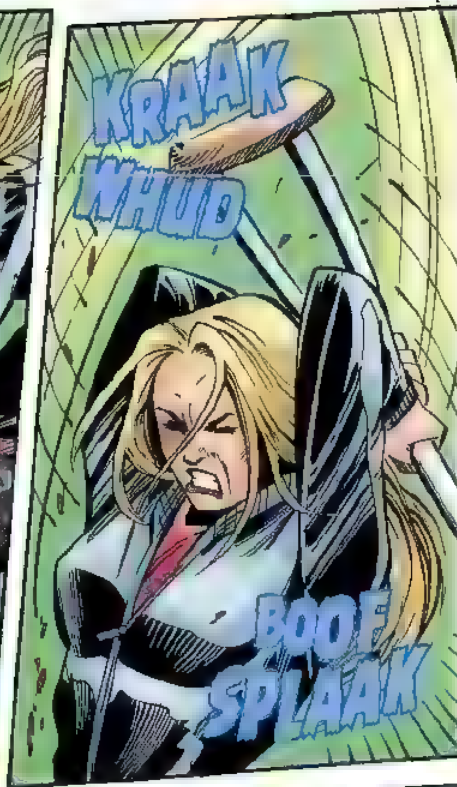
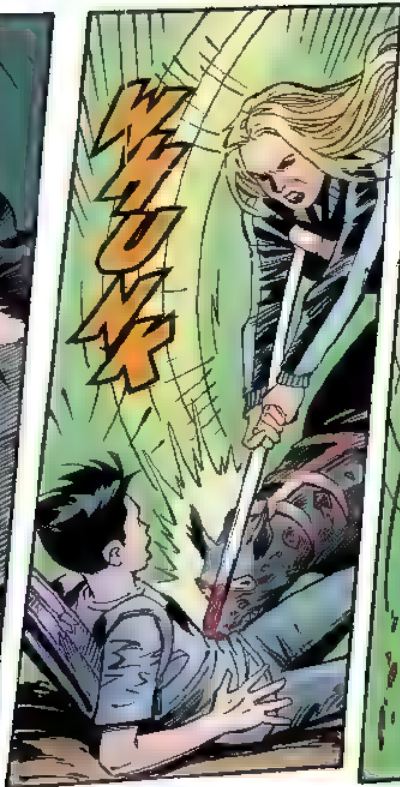
--AND NEUTRALIZE
YOUR THREAT.

SCOOBY DOO?
WHY THE HELL'S HE
FOLLOWING ME?
AND LOOK AT THE
LITTLE PUNK TEAR
INTO THOSE
MONSTERS'



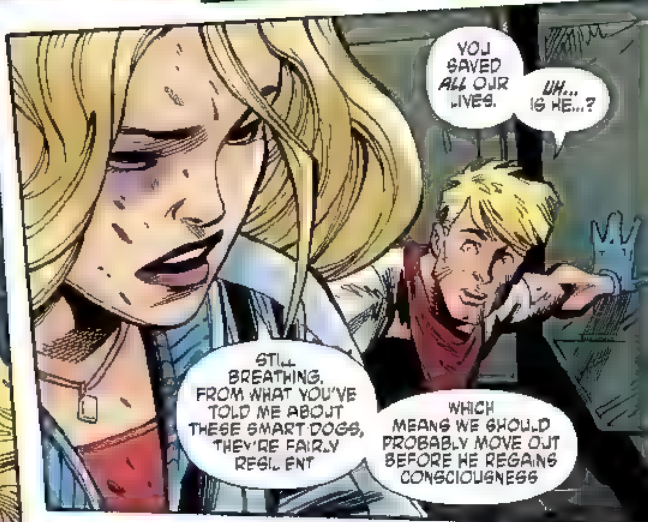


...TO...



CHOPPER,
HE... HE WAS
GONNA EAT
ME.

YOU
SAVED MY
LIFE!



YOU
SAVED
ALL OUR
LIVES.

UH...
IS HE...?

STILL
BREATHING,
FROM WHAT YOU'VE
TOLD ME ABOUT
THESE SMART DOGS,
THEY'RE FAIRLY
RESILIENT

WHICH
MEANS WE SHOULD
PROBABLY MOVE OUT
BEFORE HE REGAINS
CONSCIOUSNESS



WE CAN'T
LEAVE UNTIL
DAPHNE AND
THE OTHERS
GET BACK.

I HOPE
THEY'RE ALL
RIGHT

WHEN
YOUR FRIENDS
DO GET BACK,
CAN WE GO
LOOK FOR
SCRAPPY?







WOOF.

NOOOO!!

SHAKATA
WOOOOON

COULD YOU
FEEL THAT?
IT WASN'T JUST
A PHYSICAL
EXPLOSION--

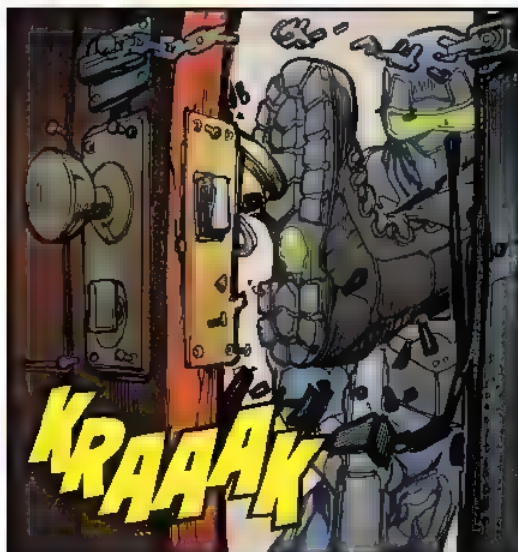
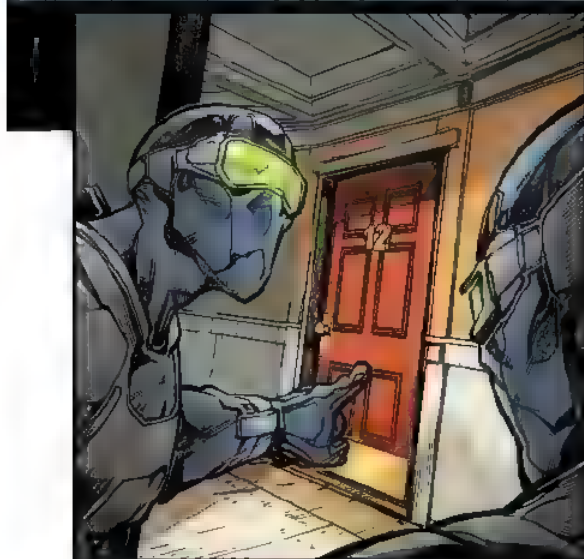
--IT WAS LIKE
A PSYCHIC WAVE!
I COULD HEAR THAT
THING'S DEATH
SCREAM IN MY
MIND!

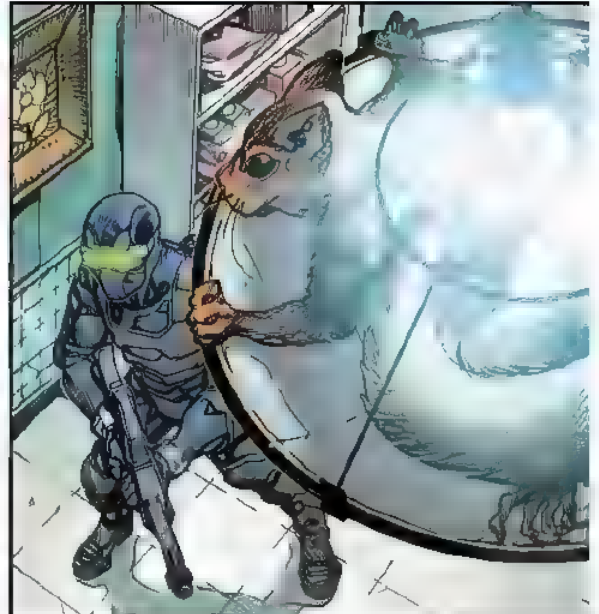
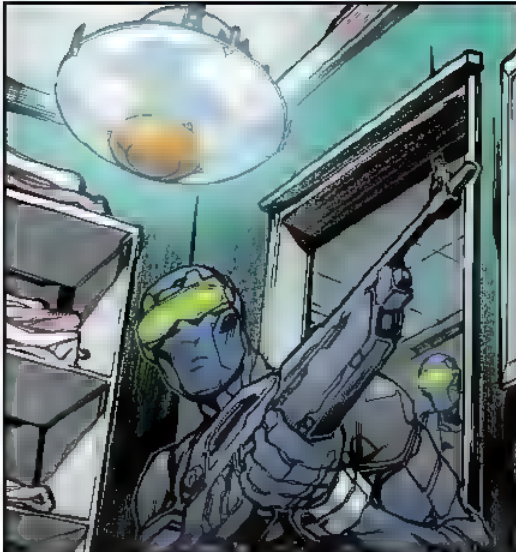
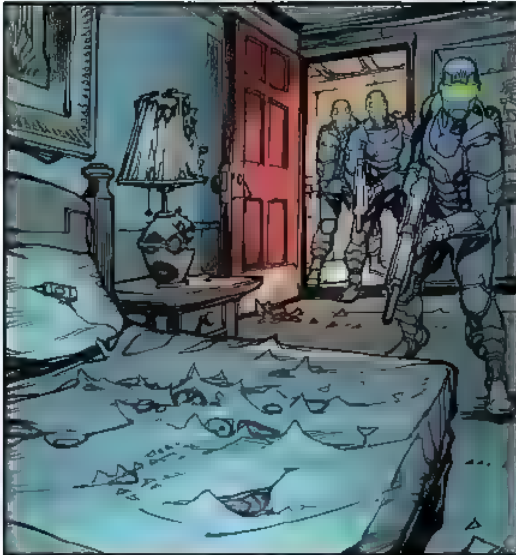
BUT MY
LITTLE BUDDY...
OH MY
GOD--

--HE WAS
RIGHT IN THE
MIDDLE
OF IT

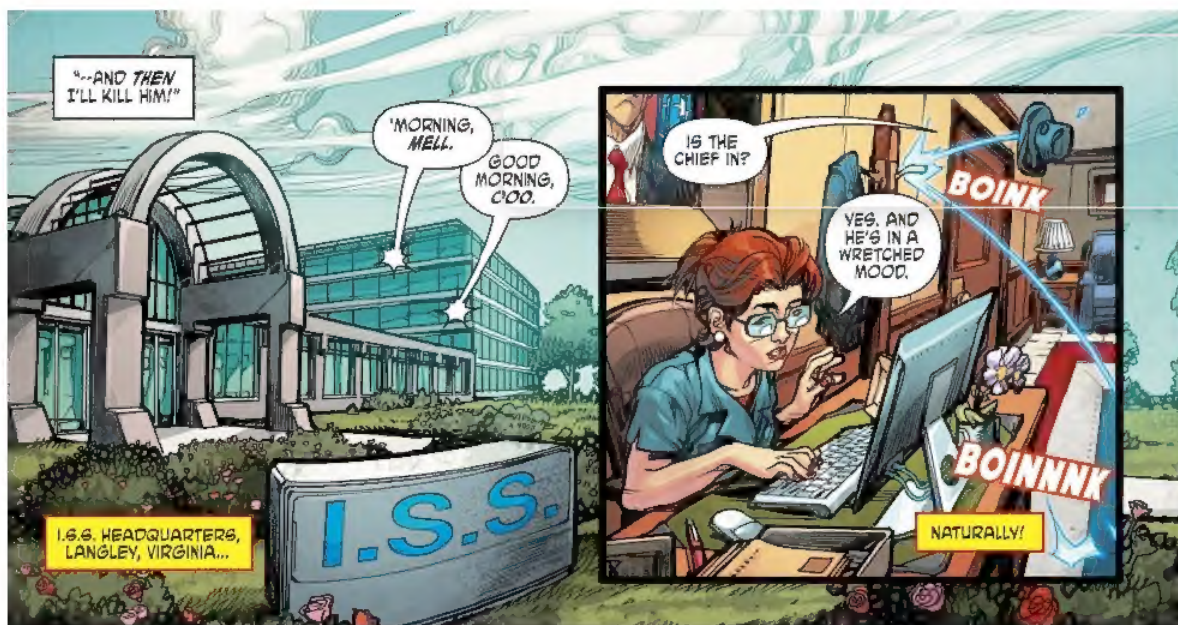
SCOOBY!

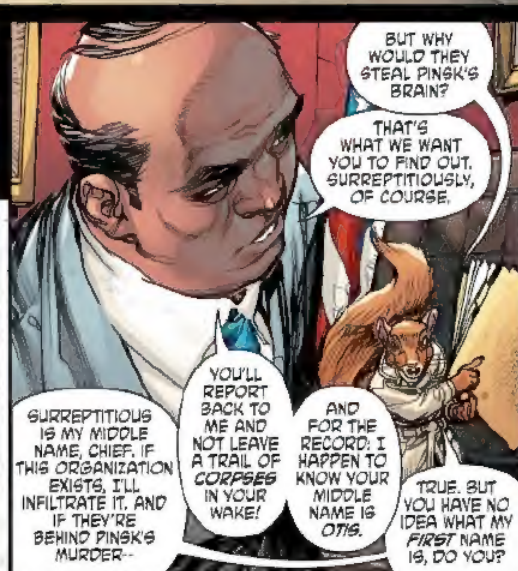
**NEXT:
PICKING
UP THE
PIECES!**











SECRET SQUIRREL!

A Giffen-DeMatteis-Porter production

Hi-Fi Colors

Travis Lanham Letters

Brittany Holzherr Assoc. Editor

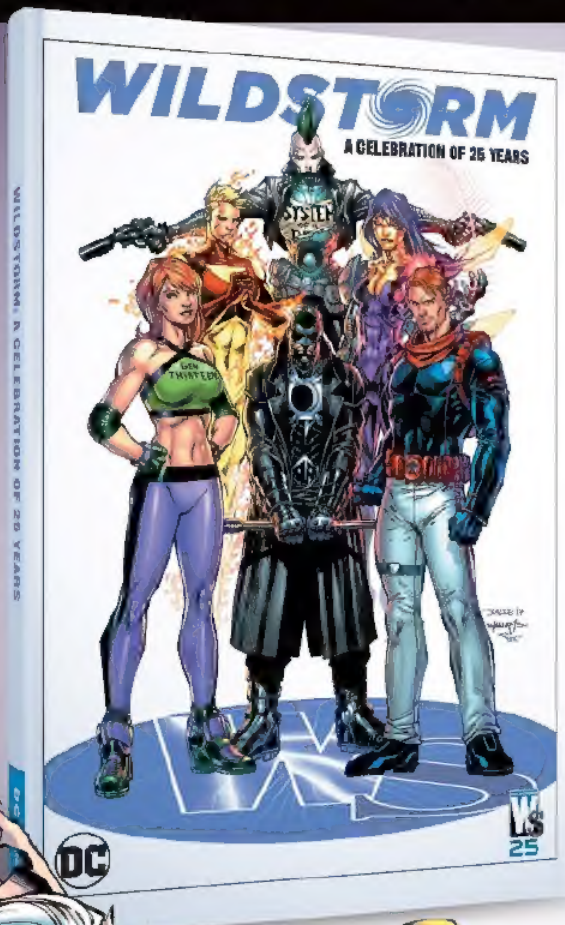
Marie Javins Under Surveillance



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DARK NIGHTS METAL

"METALURGY" with Scott Snyder

Your story will introduce a new concept, the Dark Multiverse. What can you tell us about it?

I don't want to spoil too much, but ultimately, I got fascinated by this idea that our universe itself is comprised mostly of dark matter and dark energy. Things that we can't perceive at all, and we've only discovered that relatively recently. So it's almost as if our universe is the foam on the ocean of things that we can't see, or know, or perceive, and yet we feel the effects of those things right and left.

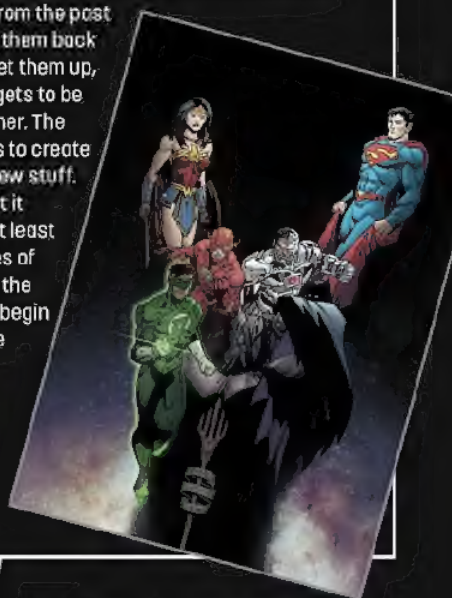
The Dark Multiverse is sort of a completely unexplored area of the DC cosmology that's new to it, but fits in with the cosmology that's been created by all of the writers and artists ahead of me, in terms of what Grant [Morrison] was able to do in MULTIVERSITY, with Geoff Johns in INFINITE CRISIS and all the way down to stories like COSMIC ODYSSEY. I had a great time rereading all of that stuff.

This event, METAL, is really about exploration. It's about going to places that we couldn't before, that we wouldn't before. When things are going well, I feel like the great reward to fans is that you can try new stories, new characters, new creators, and take some risks. The Dark Multiverse is a place, although I can't tell you too much about it in terms of its nature and its effects on the DCU. Anything you think you know about it, or anything you would guess, I promise it will be something very different. One thing is that it's coming here to invade, so the story is largely about the Dark Multiverse bleeding into ours

because of some mistakes and things that were done by a particular hero.

So in terms of the mythology that it sets up, it ties into things that we did all the way back to "Court of Owls" very strongly, and all the way through Tom King's run. Things that are in DETECTIVE [COMICS]. Obviously, because James [Tynion] is my writing buddy, he's doing the prelude to it: DARK DAYS: THE FORGE and DARK DAYS: THE CASTING.

What I will say about the Dark Multiverse is that if Rebirth is largely about bringing back classics, restoring legacy and honoring the great characters from the past and bringing them back in a way to set them up, then METAL gets to be the bad brother. The one that gets to create all kinds of new stuff. I can say that it affects- or at least the properties of dark energy, the dark matter, begin to affect- the DCU.



GET READY TO ROCK!
DARK NIGHTS: METAL #1
On sale AUGUST 16

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